

REMARKS

The present application currently has Claims 1 through 17 pending. By the office action of May 21, 2002 all claims were finally rejected. Based on a telephone interview with the Examiner, all independent claims have been amended. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims as amended.

A petition and fee for a one-month extension of time is being submitted with this response.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his telephone interviews of August 21 and 22, 2002 with the Applicant's attorney. Based on these discussions, the Examiner indicated that the present invention was distinguishable from the cited references because the present invention is part of equipment installed in a customer's premises, i.e. house or business. It is not equipment installed in a telephone company central office. However, the Examiner felt that the claims were not expressly limited to equipment located at the customer premises. By the present amendment all of the independent claims have been amended to make it clear that the equipment is at the customer premises. In view of these amendments, the Applicant submits that the claims are allowable over the cited references. Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes it would assist in expediting the application, Applicant would welcome a telephone conference with the Examiner to improve understanding of and resolve any remaining issues.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any further fees associated with any of the foregoing papers submitted herewith, or to credit any overpayment thereof, to Deposit Account No. 21-0765, Sprint.

Respectfully submitted,

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